

lateral line is visible, but very indistinct; it runs in the median furrow of the body.

The coloration (in the single preserved specimen) is a uniform yellowish grey, without trace of spots or bands. The belly is silky grey, the inside of the mouth black.

<i>Measurements</i> :—	millim.
Total length (to the tip of the caudal)	184
Length from the snout to the origin of the dorsal	43
Length from the snout to the vent	73
Length from the vent to the tip of the caudal	111
Length of the head	40
Height of the body	20
Length of the intermaxillary	15
Length of the snout	11
Length of the eye	10
Length of the postorbital part of the head	19
Length of the pectorals	20

Through the kindness of Prof. Peters I have been enabled to describe a specimen of this species, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, which is preserved in the Zoological Museum of Berlin. It was purchased through Mr. Salvin, and was said to have been received from Japan. The absence of vomerine and palatine teeth, a character quite peculiar to the species, will perhaps necessitate its removal to a separate genus, for which I propose the name *Lycodopsis*.

Christiania, March 20, 1879.

5. On the Common Dolphin, *Delphinus delphis*, Linn. By WILLIAM HENRY FLOWER, F.R.S., P.Z.S.

It is somewhat remarkable that no really adequate figure of so well known an animal as the Common Dolphin, *Delphinus delphis*, L., is to be found in any zoological publication. The best with which I am acquainted is one given by Reinhardt ("Notits om en paa østkysten of Jylland fanget *Delphinus delphis*," in Naturh. Forenings Vidensk. Meddelelser, Nr. 10 & 11, 1866), from an animal 5 feet 4 inches long taken near Grenaa, on the Jutland shore of the Cattegat, in November 1865. This figure, however, is not coloured, and wants the details of the markings seen in the specimen to be described presently. Perhaps the next best figure, and, indeed, in some respects superior, is that given in the illustrated edition of Cuvier's 'Animal Kingdom,' which is stated to be "d'après une peinture originale de Maréchal faisant partie des vélins du Muséum." The figures in the volume on Cetacea in the 'Naturalist's Library' by Dr. Hamilton and in Bell's 'British Quadrupeds' are apparently founded on this, though in the latter the tail is differently formed, the gradations of colour are badly given in the engraving, and the whole creature has too

thick and clumsy an appearance. Bonnaterre's figure (Cétologie, 1789), professes to be original, from an animal nine feet in length, in which case it could not have been *D. delphis*. It is reproduced by Lacépède (Hist. Nat. des Cétacés, 1804), with the addition of the conventional fountain from the blowhole. The earlier figures, all more or less inexact in outline, rude in execution, and of course deficient in colour, are those of Belon (1551), Rondelet (1554), and Aldrovandus (1613). The two former, especially that of Rondelet, have been repeated, with modifications, by the various compilers of the last two centuries.

On the 13th of March, Mr. F. Buckland kindly informed me that he had just received from Mr. Matthias Dunn, of Mevagissey, a Dolphin which had been caught in the mackerel-nets, about 20 miles south of the Deadman Headland, Cornwall. It proved to be a young female *Delphinus delphis*. The elegance of the form, and beauty and variety of the colouring was such, that I thought it desirable to obtain a correct coloured drawing of the animal while fresh, a copy of which I propose to publish in the Society's 'Transactions.' Instead of being simply black above and white below as usually described, the sides were shaded, mottled and streaked with various tints of yellow and grey, the distribution of which can be better understood by a reference to the figure than by any description. The colouring on the two sides was exactly alike. The under surface was of the purest possible white. The length of the creature in a straight line from the tip of beak to the notch in the middle of the tail was 5 feet 1½ inch. The other principal dimensions were as follows:—

	inches.
Tip of beak to anterior end of dorsal fin	31·5
Tip of beak to insertion of anterior edge of pectoral fin ..	16·1
Tip of beak to angle of mouth	9·0
Angle of mouth to anterior angle of eye	1·9
Length of eye-aperture	0·8
Posterior angle of eye to external auditory meatus	1·5
Length of base of dorsal fin	8·7
Height of dorsal fin	5·5
Length of anterior margin of pectoral fin	10·0
Length of posterior margin of pectoral fin	6·9
Breadth of caudal fin	13·8

The dental formula was $\frac{46-44}{48-47}=185$, which corresponds nearly with that usually observed in the species, some individual variation always met with, even on the different sides of the mouth. There are fifteen pairs of ribs, the last being unattached to its corresponding vertebra, and 21 lumbar and 31 caudal vertebræ.

This species is the Dolphin *par excellence* of the Mediterranean; but its exact geographical range has never yet been defined with precision, owing to the difficulty of distinguishing it from allied species—a difficulty which, it is hoped, the present drawing, when issued, may in some measure help to remove. It is not uncommon in the Atlantic,

on the west coast of France; and it frequently visits the English Channel, pursuing the shoals of mackerel and pilchards. In the Museum of the College of Surgeons is the skeleton of a fine adult animal, which when alive must have been about seven feet long, taken near the beginning of the present century at Worthing. Northwards of this locality it appears to become rare. Van Beneden does not include it among the Cetacea frequenting the Belgian coast, as he was not able to find any example of its capture in the North Sea. Specimens, however, are occasionally met with on the coast of Norway and Deumark, as mentioned by Lilljeborg and Reinhardt; and although it is included in many of the lists of the Cetacea of the Greenland Seas, it is doubtful whether some of the species of *Lagenorhynchus* may not have been mistaken for it.

Mr. Buckland has added a cast of this specimen to his valuable series of models of Cetacea, which exhibit better than any other method yet devised the form, proportions, and colour of these animals, otherwise so difficult of preservation.

May 6, 1879.

Prof. Flower, F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April 1879:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April 1879 was 110, of which 3 were by birth, 77 by presentation, 3 by purchase, 8 by exchange, and 19 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 115.

The most noticeable additions during the month of April were as follows:—

1. Two Lanceolated Jays (*Garrulus lanceolatus*, Vigors) from the Himalayas, received in exchange April 1st. This fine bird, a close ally of our well-known Jay, has not, so far as I am aware, been brought to Europe alive previously.

2. Two female Roe-deer (said to have been brought from China, and purchased by one of the Society's correspondents at Marseilles), received in exchange April 3rd. These Deer are probably referable to the *Capreolus pygargus* (Pallas), and differ from the European species in having a longer body and head, and being higher on the legs. The colour is much darker, and appears to be red in the summer coat. The ears are longer and more pointed.

3. A fine young male of the Japanese Goat-Antelope (*Capricornus crispus*¹) presented by the Society's Corresponding Member, Mr. H. Pryer, of Yokohama, Japan, and received April 12th.

We owe Mr. Pryer many thanks for the trouble he has taken in obtaining for us this fine and rare animal, the first of its species which has ever reached us.

4. An Alpine Accentor (*Accentor alpinus*) received in exchange April 30th, being, it is believed, the first example of this little bird obtained in captivity.

¹ *Antelope crista*, Siebold, Faun. Japon. Mamm. p. 55, tab. xvii.